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the laws which will govern its development, and realize how complete the disaster if these standards be not observed.

In the *oneness* of truth, in the universality of history, there is provided an ample satisfaction for all the aspirations of nationality. Wherein those aspirations reflect the light of truth, just so far does history record their providential transmutation into interests and their fulfillment, without recourse to the unsuccessful artifice of nationalism.

"A MESSAGE FROM SYRIA"

BY MRS. LAYYAH A. BARAKAT,
Philadelphia.

I am a mere insignificant woman in the midst of this intelligent and scientific body, and I represent a little country—Syria— but I have a heart that has been given enlargement by the American Christians. I was only a barefooted Mount Lebanon girl. My father, my grandfather, my uncles and many of my people laid down their lives for their country. My people today are suffering under the yoke of the blood-thirsty and cruel Turks, and for all I know—for two years I haven't heard a word from my very own—my people have probably died from starvation, for no other reason than that they seek freedom and Christianity.

Syria is the country that gave you the Bible; Syria, the country that gave you the Christ; Syria, the cradle of Christianity. Before the discovery of America we had only one-half of the globe and we thought it was the whole world, and we looked to my little country as the very center of that world. To that center the Christ Jesus came; from that center the Christ sent his golden rule throughout the world. But since the discovery of America we have another half of the globe and we find America the new center. We expect the light to reflect back from this very center to our own, to send her Christ's golden rule, that Syria may have freedom and may have liberty, that Syria may be a democratic nation. They are longing for it. What can we do to help them?

I am one that was redeemed by the pennies of a Philadelphia Sunday School. It was the pennies that went to my native land from the hands of the consecrated American children that made me

what I am. You sent us missionaries; you taught us democracy; you opened our eyes; you made us believe that we are worthy of freedom; will you leave us alone now to perish? We plead with you. God is using you now and is going to use you yet for greater things. America is the best country under the sun.

The entry of the United States into the world war is to relieve the oppressed people and to uphold democracy. Surely the people of Syria are one of the most oppressed under the despotic rule of the Turks, and they long for the privilege of self-government. This right has been taken from them and they now appeal to this great nation to help break the yoke from their shoulders and make them free. America can do it if she only will.

The glorious American flag I love; it protected me from the sword of the Turk when I was but three years old. It protected my poor widowed mother. It protected me in 1882 when I came from Egypt, a refugee. I ran away barefooted from Egypt and found refuge under this flag. I arrived at the foot of Washington Avenue, Philadelphia, without money, without friends, without language—a stranger in a strange land—and I was taken in by the true Americans. God bless America. God raise America higher.

One of our eminent professors has said, "The world needs a new philosophy; the philosophy of this great century must go to the world." It is not philosophy that the world wants. The world wants something that man has not yet gotten—the world wants religion; the world wants God. But you may say, What is religion? Religion is the presence of God in the soul of man, and when man has the presence of God in his soul he will help the weak and lift up the fallen.

Where is Assyria and her art and science? Where is Babylon and her power? Where is Nineveh and her great and wonderful works? Where is Egypt and her education? They have gone, and nothing but ruins are left to tell us what they once were. They rejected God and God rejected them and put them out of existence. This shows us that philosophy and education cannot perpetuate nations, but we need the golden rule of the Son of God to bring the golden age for the life of man.